

REMARKS

New claims 110-118 presented herein are supported by the disclosure as indicated in the following annotated version of the claims:

ANNOTATED VERSION OF NEW CLAIMS 110-118 SHOWING SUPPORT THEREOF

110. A local area network comprising:
- a plurality of local area network nodes; (ELEMENTS 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22)
 - a LAN switch (ELEMENT 34); and
 - communication cabling (11 IN FIG. 1A) connecting said plurality of nodes to said switch for providing data communication;
 - said LAN switch comprising:
 - coupler circuitry (220, FIG. 3A) coupling power into the communication cabling substantially without interfering with data communication (PAGE 40, FIRST PARAGRAPH); and
 - a power management and control unit (FIG. 10A, ELEMENT 2038, PAGE 77, FIRST COMPLETE PARAGRAPH) governing the supply of power to at least some of the plurality of local area network nodes via the communication cabling,
 - said power management and control unit being operative to interrogate at least one node to which it is intended to transmit power over the communication cabling (PAGE 77, FIRST COMPLETE PARAGRAPH AND PAGE 78, SECOND COMPLETE PARAGRAPH) in order to determine whether the node's characteristics allow it to receive power over the communication cabling. (PARAGRAPH BRIDGING PAGES 78, 79)
111. A local area network according to claim 110 wherein the interrogation of at least one node includes measuring the voltage across the communication cabling connected to a node which is being interrogated and determining whether the measured voltage exceeds a predetermined threshold. (PAGE 79, THIRD AND FOURTH COMPLETE PARAGRAPHS)

112. A local area network according to claim 111 wherein a node for which the measured voltage exceeds a predetermined threshold is marked as an external voltage fed node. ("YES" DECISION IN FIG. 18A)

113. A network according to claim 110 and wherein said power management an control unit is operative to set a level of current to be injected via the coupler circuitry into a line to which a node being interrogated is connected. (PAGE 77, FIRST COMPLETE PARAGRAPH; PAGE 78, FOURTH COMPLETE PARAGRAPH; PAGE 79, PARAGRAPH 4)

114. A network according to claim 113 in which the line interrogation process includes measuring the voltage across said line, after said level of current has been established in said line, thereby to obtain at least one voltage measurement. (FIG. 18A, LAST STEP; PARAGRAPH BRIDGING PAGES 79 AND 80)

115. A network according to claim 114 wherein the voltage is measured at a plurality of predetermined programmable times. (PARAGRAPH BRIDGING PAGES 79 AND 80).

116. A network according to claim 115 wherein the voltage is measured at at least three predetermined times. (PARAGRAPH BRIDGING PAGES 79 AND 80).

117. A network according to claim 114 and also comprising determining the status of the node and of the line at least partly based on said at least one voltage measurement. (PAGE 80, SECOND COMPLETE PARAGRAPH)

118. A network according to claim 117 wherein said node status comprises an indication that the node is adapted to receive power over the local area network. (PAGES 80, 81).

New method claims 119-127 are similar in scope to claims 110-118.

In view of the foregoing remarks, all of the claims are believed to be in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jay S. Cinamon". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

JAY S. CINAMON
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 24,156

ABELMAN, FRAYNE & SCHWAB
150 East 42nd Street
New York, New York 10017
(212) 949-9022
(212) 949-9190